REMARKS

By this Amendment, an Abstract is submitted on a separate sheet of paper as required by the Office Action and the pending claims are amended merely to be in further conformance with U.S. practice. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Although the Office Action indicated a willingness to allow claims 3-6 and 12-15, Applicants delay rewriting these claims at this time so that the Office may reconsider the allowability of the base claims based on the remarks herein.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-2, 7-11 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being unpatentable in view of Hjelm et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,529,497; hereafter "Hjelm"). Applicant traverses the rejection because Hjelm fails to disclose, teach or suggest a method for controlling load in a telecommunication system, the method including "controlling the telecommunication system load by adjusting the capacity of the channel used for relaying the channel allocation requests" as recited in independent claim 1, and its dependent claims 2 and 7-9. Similarly, Hjelm fails to disclose, teach or suggest a "telecommunication system is arranged to control load by adjusting the capacity of the channel used for relaying the channel allocation requests", as recited in independent claim 10 and its dependent claim 11 and 16.

Hjelm merely discloses how a channel is allocated to a mobile station (see col. 6, line 60 to col. 7, line 39). As illustrated in Figure 2A, in event 2-10, it is checked whether there are available General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) channels. If such a channel is available, at event 2-11, it is reserved at event 2-12 by sending a channel assignment to a mobile station. If there are no available channels, it is checked, in event 2-13, whether a channel can be obtained from a GPRS Idle list. If the GPRS Idle list indicated no available channels, it is checked whether a channel can be obtained from a GSM idle list. Thus, Hjelm merely discloses a typical dynamic channel allocation method where the number of traffic channels is changed according to need.

Therefore, because Hjelm fails to disclose, teach or suggest control of the load by adjusting the capacity of the channel used for relaying the channel allocation requests, the prior art rejection is traversed and claims 1-2, 7-11 and 16 are allowable.

Claims 2 and 11 are also patentable for the additional reason that the Office Action's characterization of the teachings of Hjelm is incorrect. Specifically, the Office Action asserted that Hjelm discloses that a channel capacity would be adjusted according to the load

of the base station. However, the Hjelm text cited by the Office Action (see col. 11, lines. 4-43 and Figs. 4C-D) actually describes how traffic channels are moved between idle lists (i.e., from the GSM Idle List and GPRS Idle List) by using timers and load of the base station as control parameters. Therefore, Hjelm fails to disclose that the capacity of the request channel relaying the channel allocation request would be altered in any way. Accordingly, the subject matter recited in dependent claims 2 and 11 is patentable over the teachings of Hjelm for this additional reason.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, Applicant requests issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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